

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1-8 and 10-11 have been objected to because of various informalities. These claims have been appropriately amended. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-7 and 10-11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Masuda, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,400,556).

It is respectfully submitted, however, that these claims are patentable over the art of record for the reasons set forth below.

An illustration of an exemplary embodiment of Applicants' invention is included as an enclosure to this Amendment. As is shown, an anode lead is sandwiched between an upper portion and a lower portion of the anode body. A portion of the anode lead extends beyond the anode body. The anode lead also extends to the three other side surfaces of the anode body. The edges of the anode are covered with resist on the sides of the anode body. There is no resist on the top and bottom surfaces of top and bottom surfaces of the anode body.

Thus, Applicants' claim 1 includes the feature of:

... an anode lead extending from said anode on one of said sides, said anode extending to all other of said sides and covered with a sintered layer on said all other of said sides.

The above features are completely lacking from Masuda which neither discloses nor suggests his anode extending to the sides of his body. Furthermore, the feature of a sintered layer on those sides is neither disclosed nor suggested. Accordingly, claim 1 is patentable over Masuda.

Claims 3, 6 and 7 include features similar to those set forth above with regard to claim 1. Claims 3, 6 and 7 are thus also patentable over Masuda.

Regarding claim 4, this claim recites the feature of:

... a flat plain area of said valve metal foil covered with said sintered layer is not less than one-half of the flat plain area.

The Official Action indicates that this feature is illustrated in Fig. 1 and Fig. 2 of Masuda. This is respectfully traversed. Applicants' representative has reviewed Fig. 1

Appln. No.: 10/621,064
Amendment Dated: October 1, 2004
Reply to Office Action of: June 7, 2004

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and Fig. 2 of Masuda. Neither Figure illustrates half or more of the flat plain area covered with the sintered layer.

Regarding claim 5, this claim recites the feature of:

A ratio of cross sectional area of said anode lead portion of said valve metal foil to that of said layer of sintered body is not less than 10%.

The Official Action alleges that this feature is shown in Fig. 1 and Fig. 2 of Masuda. Again, Applicants' representative has reviewed those Figures and does not see the above-claimed feature in those Figures.

For the reasons set forth above, claims 4 and 5 are patentable over Masuda.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 8 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Masuda in view of Uchi, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,038,124). This claim, however, includes the features of claim 7 from which it depends. Thus, this claim is also patentable over the art of record.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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Dated: October 1, 2004

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